

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



March 4, 2014

Robert Hingtgen County of San Diego 5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310 San Diego, CA 92123 DECEIVE D MAR 0 6 2014

Planning and Development Services

Subject: Soitec Solar Projects Program Environmental Impact Repoart (LanWest, LanEast, Rugged and

Tiedrra Del Sol) SCH#: 2012121018

Dear Robert Hingtgen:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on March 3, 2014, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely

Scott Morgan

Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures

cc: Resources Agency 1400 10th Street P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613 FAX (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov

Document Details Report State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH# 2012121018

Project Title Soitec Solar Projects Program Environmental Impact Repoart (LanWest, LanEast, Rugged and Tiedrra

Lead Agency Del Sol)

San Diego County

Type EIR Draft EIR

Description Note: Reference SCH# 2013011007

Note: Extended Review

The project proposes the development of four solar energy sites (Tierra del Sol, Rugged Solar, LanWest, and LanEast) that would collectively include approximately 1,473 acres of Concentrated

Fax

Photovoltaic (CPV) trackers and generate approximately 168.5 megawatts of electricity.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Robert Hingtgen

Agency County of San Diego

Phone 858 694-3712

email

Address 5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310

City San Diego State CA Zip 92123

Project Location

County San Diego

City

Region

Lat/Long 32° 39' 49" N / 116° 15' 36" W

Cross Streets McCain Valley Road and Old Hwy 80

Parcel No. numerous

Township 17/18S Range 6/7E Section 8,9,15 Base SBB&M

Proximity to:

Agencies

Date Received

Highways Old Hwy 80, I-8, Hwy 94

Airports No

Railways San Diego and Arizona Eastern
Waterways Tule Lake/Creek and Walker Canyon

Schools Clover Flat Elementary

01/02/2014

Land Use A70, Limited Agricultural, A72, General Agricultural, S92, General Rural/Rural Lands 80 (RL-80)

Project Issues Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Drainage/Absorption; Flood

Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Noise; Public Services; Soil

Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water

Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Wildlife; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Cumulative Effects

Reviewing Resources Agency; Department of Conservation; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5;

Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 11; Air Resources Board; Air Resources Board, Major Industrial Projects; Regional

Water Quality Control Board, Region 9; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Native American

Heritage Commission; California Energy Commission; Public Utilities Commission

Start of Review 01/02/2014 End of Review 03/03/2014

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95691 (916) 373-3715 Fax (916) 373-5471 Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov Ds_nahc@pacbell.net e-mail: ds_nahc@pacbell.net

January 16, 2014

RECEIVED

Mr. Robert Hingtgen, Environmental Planner

County of San Diego planning & **Development Services Department**

5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310, MS O-850 San Diego, CA 92123



Environmental Impact Report Project;" located in the Boulevard-Tierra Del Sol; Mountain Empire Region; eastern San Diego County, California

Dear Mr. Hingtgen:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has reviewed the above-referenced environmental document.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) states that any project which includes archeological resources, is a significant effect requiring the preparation of an EIR (CEQA guidelines 15064.5(b). This area is known to local tribes and to the NAHC as very culturally sensitive. There are a number of recorded sacred sites near the project site(s). To adequately comply with this provision and mitigate project-related impacts on archaeological resources, the Commission recommends the following actions be required:

Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of accidentally discovered archeological resources, pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) §15064.5(f). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American, with knowledge in cultural resources, should monitor all ground-disturbing activities. Also, California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2 require documentation and analysis of archaeological items that meet the standard in Section 15064.5 (a)(b)(f).

We suggest that this (additional archaeological activity) be coordinated with the NAHC, if possible. The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measurers should be submitted immediately to the planning department. Any information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate



confidential addendum, and not be made available for pubic disclosure pursuant to California Government Code Section 6254.10.

A list of appropriate Native American Contacts for consultation concerning the project site has been provided and is attached to this letter to determine if the proposed active might impinge on any cultural resources.

California Government Code Section 65040.12(e) defines "environmental justice" to provide "fair treatment of People... with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies." (The California Code is consistent with the Federal Executive Order 12898 regarding 'environmental justice.' Also, applicable to state agencies is Executive Order B-10-11 requires consultation with Native American tribes their elected officials and other representatives of tribal governments to provide meaningful input into the development of legislation, regulations, rules, and policies on matters that may affect tribal communities.

Lead agencies should consider first, avoidance for sacred and/or historical sites, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15370(a). Then if the project goes ahead then, lead agencies include in their mitigation and monitoring plan provisions for the analysis and disposition of recovered artifacts, pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2 in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.

Lead agencies should include provisions for discovery of Native American human remains in their mitigation plan. Health and Safety Code §7050.5, CEQA §15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code §5097.98 mandates the process to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

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Program Analys

CC: State Clearinghouse

Attachment: Native American Contacts list